



# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

### Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 27, 2018  
San Mateo County Office Building  
455 County Center, Redwood City – Room 101  
6:30 PM

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Roll Call**

**Commissioners Present:** Becky Abens, Nirmala Bandrapalli, Anya Drabkin, Linda Koelling, Manufou Liaiga-Anoai, Dana Linda, Rebecca Oyama, Monique Ray, Maya Tussing, Anisha Weber, Rebecca Wise

**Staff Present:** Tanya Beat; Juda Tolmasoff

**Absent:** Marguerite Machen, Christine Padilla

**3. Public Comment**

**4. Mission & Vision**

The Commission on the Status of Women, an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors, seeks to improve the quality of life for women of all ages in San Mateo County. Through strategic partnerships and collaboration, the commission identifies women's needs, advises the board of supervisors, and educates the community on matters concerning women.

**5. Approval and Adoption of Agenda**

Motion to approve by Nirmala Bandrapalli, seconded by Rebecca Wise. Unanimously approved.

**6. Approval of October Meeting Minutes**

Corrections by Becky Abens to correctly spell Manufou Liaiga-Anoai's name. Second correction is that Becky Abens DECLINED the nomination for Vice-President. Motion to approve corrected minutes by Becky Abens; seconded by Manufou Liaiga-Anoai. Unanimously approved.

**7. Report from Commission President**

- Year in Review: Retreat changed goals and focus; Women's Leadership Conference and Hall of Fame; Off-Site Meetings and Community Conversations. Accomplished much and have more to do!

**8. Report from Commission Director**

- Shweta Bhatnagar has resigned due to both personal and professional reasons. Juda and Tanya will be looking at applicants from the last recruitment for potential interviews.
- Choices Holiday Program: the people attending are Marguerite, Dana, Fou, Maya, Becky, Nirmala, Rebecca Wise
- Women in County Government luncheon is Dec 6. Tickets still available.
- Transgender Day of Remembrance Altar is in lobby of the Courthouse.
- Watermark Conference: mainly a corporate event at San Jose Convention Center in February. Session proposal was accepted with Fou Liaiga-Anoui facilitating a round table about how to get involved in public service.
- Holiday Happy Hour! Social only, not allowed to talk about Commission business. Monday, December 17, 6-7:30pm. **Please expect an Evite via email.**

## 9. Youth Commission Report

- March 8 is Women's Mentorship Night.
- Poetry Slam in April: we need 5 adult mentors to help participants work on their poem or just to mentor/coach them.
  - 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Youth Commission which is under the umbrella of the Youth Leadership Institute (<https://yli.org/>)
- Indigenous People's Day: Youth Commission proposed to change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day. Due to a variety of perspectives and need to hear multiple voices, that is why IPD was the Monday before Columbus Day. We will continue to keep the CSW updated about what may be decided upon for 2019.

## 10. CSW 2019 Meeting Schedule

Recommendation by Becky to change November meeting to Tuesday PRIOR, November 19. Not meeting in August or December.  
 Motion to approve this amended schedule by Nirmala Bandrapalli, seconded by Anisha Weber. Unanimously approved.

## 11. Officer Elections for 2019

- Becky Abens clarified that she actually declined the nomination for VicePresident. Manufou Liaiga-Anoai has now accepted her nomination for VicePresident (by Christine Padilla).

Slate: Fou Liaiga-Anoai for Vice-President  
 Anisha Weber for President  
 Nominations open to the floor: none offered.

Position of Vice-President: all voted unanimously in favor of Manufou Liaiga-Anoui  
 Position of President: all voted unanimously in favor of Anisha Weber

## 12. Ad Hoc Work Groups/ Project Updates

**Sub-Commission Offsite Meeting:** Dana Linda, Rebecca Oyama, Maya Tussing, Anya Drabkin Charged with researching locations, availability of those locations, contact people at those locations.

Rebecca O: Timeline includes having a decision made by Dec 14 regarding location. We have looked at East Palo Alto, Fair Oaks, Menlo Park.

- We ask for clarity about whether our charge is to invite speakers from the community. Please let us know.

- By January's meeting we would have outreach established and tasks for Commissioners to take on.

- Priority is to have more voices from under-represented groups and from the immigrant community.

- Wanted to include child care and translation services at the meeting; make sure the location is easy to get to. And if the venue has fees associated with it.

Dana: East Palo Alto Library has a community room that would be a good fit; they would waive their fee. The CSW would pay for that fee. EPA library would agree to co-sponsor.

- Cooley Landing Education Center: beautiful but not a dedicated space for child care.

- Boys & Girls Club

- East Side College Prep: perhaps great for a future event/meeting for HS students

- US Geological Survey in Menlo Park: great space, auditorium, conference rooms; we could use them PRIOR to early March. Possible for a movie screening "fundraiser"

#### Something to Consider:

Do we need to separate conversations from Commission meetings so that we can conduct business and move forward with our goals? Then the community conversation can be a "stand alone" that is more beneficial for the community.

The charge is for the Commission to discuss what the goals are, prioritize them and figure out the "how" at the Retreat.

Site visit needed. Community Conversation better on a Saturday. Dates: March 9, 16, 30. Let's decide time-of-day in January. We also have March 26 as a reg Commission Meeting.

Suggest to approve the location pending a site visit & available dates (try to reserve for the dates available, March 9 & 16). Motion by Rebecca Wise and seconded by Monique Ray.

#### **Sub-Commission for CEDAW:**

Rebecca Wise, Rebecca Oyama, Dana Linda, Anisha Weber

\*Charged with researching more about CEDAW and what other counties have done to successfully incorporate these important women's rights issues.

#### **Sub-Commission for Women's Leadership Conference & Hall of Fame:**

Rebecca Wise, Anya Drabkin, Nirmala Bandrapalli, Monique Ray, Dana Linda, Anisha Weber

\*Charge is to work with Tanya to find venue, assess & choose theme, help build structure for the program, etc.

### **13. Announcements**

### **14. Adjournment**

The **Commission on the Status of Women Group** agree to arrive on time/start on time; take turns speaking; speak loud enough for everyone to hear; be courteous of other opinions; listen to hear a different perspective than your own; mute phones, PDA's, pagers; allow the chair to guide the process; Chair will check in about remaining time at 8:15 PM.

Public records that relate to any item on the open session agenda for a regular or special meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women are available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the Commission. Those public records are available for public inspection at the Human Resources office located at 455 County Center, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Redwood City, CA 94063 by appointment. The documents are also available to be sent electronically by emailing [tbeat@smcgov.org](mailto:tbeat@smcgov.org) or calling 650-363-4467.

**IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE AND THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:** The meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women are accessible to individuals with disabilities. Contact Tanya Beat at (650) 363-4467, or at [tbeat@smcgov.org](mailto:tbeat@smcgov.org) as soon as possible prior to the meeting, if (1) you need special assistance or a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in this meeting; or (2) you have a disability and wish to receive the meeting notice, agenda packet or other writings that may be distributed at the meeting in an alternative format. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable the Commission on the Status of Women to make reasonable arrangements to ensure full accessibility to this meeting and the materials related to it.